



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

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Program: *Phytophthora ramorum*

Date: June 17, 2004

Trace forward surveys continue and the national survey is underway as PPQ determines the distribution of *Phytophthora ramorum*. The number of confirmed positive locations from the trace forward, national, and other surveys is 139 in 18 states.

As of June 15, *P. ramorum* has been confirmed in plants traced forward from the initially positive Los Angeles County wholesaler at 118 sites in 16 states. The numbers of nurseries or garden centers with positive trace forward samples from the wholesaler by state are California (43), Alabama (3), Arkansas (1), Florida (6), Washington (11), Oregon (9), Texas (10), Colorado (1), Georgia (13), Louisiana (5), Maryland (1), North Carolina (9), New Mexico (1), South Carolina (1), Tennessee (2), and Virginia (1). The Federal confirmed nursery protocol was implemented at these facilities. One residential sample from South Carolina linked to the wholesaler has been found positive.

To date, 17 Eastern Region states have begun or completed National Survey activities (Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia). The states have inspected 218 nurseries and collected 4,983 samples. Maryland and New Jersey had one positive facility each. The Western Region reports that 11 states have begun or completed National Survey activities (Arizona, Arkansas, California, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, and Washington). These states have inspected 383 nurseries and have collected 14,576 samples; 14 facilities in two states, California and Washington, have tested positive.

APHIS is considering an appropriate regulatory response to the recent discoveries of *P. ramorum* in commercial nurseries not associated with plants shipped from the initially positive Los Angeles County wholesaler in the states of Oregon and Washington. APHIS has held several discussions with the affected states and stakeholders.